

SECRET CONTROL U. S. OFFICIALS ONLY

Rauff

Subject: Plan LACY - RAUFF, Walter
Abdullah RAUFF - Walter RAUFF
Dr. RAUFF

Report No.: PIR-5919

Place Acquired: Italy, Rome

Date of Info.: December 1949

Evaluation: 2-3

Date Acquired: January 1950

Source: ☐ ☐

Date of Report: 24 February 1950

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1. The self-styled Abdullah RAUFF, alias Walter RAUFF, is identical with German SS Colonel Walter RAUFF; Field Comment: See CSNIO CWF 165. Subject was born in 1906 and after having completed superior studies he enrolled in the German Navy and became an officer in 1924. As such he travelled for a long time and thus was able to come to know a little on all European countries and South Africa. In 1936 he was promoted to Commander and was forced to leave the service following a divorce because such a case was not in accordance with the German Naval Regulations. Some time later HEYDRICH, head of the SS, named Subject a Lt. Col. (SS Obersturmfuehrer) and entrusted him with the direction of the Berlin Police, which post he held from 1938 to 1941.
2. With the nomination of HEYDRICH as governor of Bohemia, Subject was forced to leave the post as head of Berlin Police and was sent abroad on missions, first to Corsica and thence to Tunisia and finally to the Italian Social Republic, with headquarters in Milan, as a standartenfuhrer. In 1943-1944 convinced that the war was finished he entered into contact with the Allies and in favor of the latter carried out double agent role. In April 1945 he was captured by the Allies and interned in a concentration camp in North Italy.
3. In 1947 Subject succeeded in escaping and appeared in a convent in Rome. In possession of false documents furnished him seemingly by the then Syrian Army Lieutenant Andre TABARA who concealed Subject in Europe under the name of "Dr. POLIS", Subject passed to the service of the Syrian General Staff. In Damascus where he went shortly after, he was entrusted with the censorship of the Direction General of Police.
4. The coup in March 1949 of Colonel HUSNI EL QAIM did not effect Subject's position which he immediately consolidated so much so that he became one of the principal counsellors and confidants of the new Chief of the Syrian government. Later, however, HUSNI EL QAIM got suspicious of the loyalty of Subject whom he believed to be in contact with the Syrian Communist Movement as agent of the German VON LIPKAU with whom Subject was in close contact. Subject was therefore arrested and expelled from Syria. Subject went to Lebanon and at Beirut attempted to make a trip with LIPKAU carrying out Communist propaganda in India. The project was never actuated however, inasmuch as LIPKAU allegedly was detained in Tel Aviv by other obligations.
5. Having found the impossibility of transferring to India and not being able on the other hand, to remain in Lebanon because he was compromised with LIPKAU, Subject returned to Italy and after a brief sojourn in Rome proceeded to South America (Venezuela or Argentina) assisted by emissaries of the Argentine Israel representation (Edmond GROSS). On the basis of information from a sure informant, RAUFF came from Beirut where he lived at home with his wife and two children on 21-22 October 1949 and is alleged to have been in Rome he allegedly was a part of the plan for the assassination.

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6. On 17 December 1949 Subject allegedly embarked with his family on the SS Conte Grande from Genoa for South America. It was not possible to establish under what name Subject had come to Rome and with what documents he departed for South America. However, his presence in Rome was primarily in connection with a mission which he was to carry out in Egypt on behalf of the Israel service. But since this possibility failed it seems that Subject was dropped by CMOSS who nevertheless obtained him the necessary documents to emigrate to South America. It is not improbable that Subject's presence in Syria was in connection with a mission for the Israel service. In Rome Subject was never concerned with the purchase of arms or other traffic.
7. Further checks in Rome revealed that on 19 October 1949 Subject took lodgings at the Pensione Tolentino in Rome registering as Naval Engineer Walter RUP, born at Gethen, Germany, on 19 June 1906, exhibiting identity card No. 777 issued in this name by the Direction General of Security, Beirut dated 29 September 1949. He was accompanied by his wife, Edita RUP, born at Dessau, Germany, on 9 July 1908, and two children. Subject stated he came from Beirut. On 25 November, Subject and his family left for Genoa from where he was to depart on the SS Conte Grande, leaving Genoa on 17 December 1949.
8. In Rome Subject lived an open and modest life, appearing to have very little financial resources. In the Pensione he did not receive visits but only a few telephone calls. In a conversation with the owner of the pensione his wife stated among other things that during the entire period of the last war they lived in Syria where Subject carried out activity in connection with his profession of naval engineer. Subject's wife added that they intended to go to Ecuador where they hoped to settle.
9. On 20 December 1949 Source [] reported that about early December, Subject and his wife had allegedly been in Milan. Subject, who was erroneously reported to have been killed during the recent events in Syria was in possession of Syrian passport in the name of Walter RUP. The first name had been deliberately put as the last name so that his presence could not be detected. Subject was going to South America and the trip had already been paid for, allegedly by the British. Subject it was stated obtained about 40,000 lire from Cons. BIGNARDI (Milan) and much more aid from one SILVESTRI head of Free Masonry of Piazza S. Alessandro.
10. Source [] reported that Subject was in Italy from the beginning of November to about 5 December 1949. On the basis of his documents issued at Damascus he initially spent a few weeks in Beirut where he obtained a passport and an "authorization for entry" seemingly for Brazil. In Rome he stayed at a Pensione located at Via Tolentino under the name of WALTER.
11. [] stated that in order to avoid complications of any kind, he had avoided Subject and when he [] wanted to talk to Subject, he could not find him. [] stated he obtained the above exclusively from conversations with other persons who have visited Subject and spoke to him (or who wanted to see him or talk to him). This Source did not know what Subject would do in South America, but he did not think he would engage in political or intelligence activity.
12. The reputation which surrounded Subject from Damascus is not known and the information by Syrian authorities does not appear to be reliable. It is noted that the information is based on the fact that Subject was in contact with persons who were known to be in contact with the Syrian service.
13. [] stated that Subject was in contact with persons who were known to be in contact with the Syrian service.